

Amendments To The Claims

The listing of claims presented below will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) An applicator for dispensing an anesthetic ~~a liquid or a gel into a mouth~~, the applicator and anesthetic comprising:
 - a generally cylindrical container having a reservoir for liquids or gels therein,
 - a dispensing orifice at one end of the container in fluid communication with the reservoir;
 - a plurality of bristles, the bristles having a first end that is within the dispensing orifice and a second end located outside of and away from the dispensing orifice ~~from the orifice~~, the bristles acting as a partial closure for the orifice and as an applicator for liquid or gel anesthetic in the reservoir,
 - means for forcing fluid from the reservoir to the orifice, and
 - a an anesthetic composition contained in the reservoir, said anesthetic composition being either a liquid or gel.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The applicator of claim 1, wherein the means for forcing fluid from the reservoir comprises a piston disposed at an end of the container opposite to the orifice, a piston rod connected to the piston and directed away from the reservoir, and a cylinder at an end of the container opposite to the bristles, which is rotatable to cause movement of the piston rod and piston towards the reservoir to force fluid therefrom.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Previously presented) The applicator of claim 1, further comprised of a cap, which covers the bristles.
11. (Cancelled)
12. (Currently amended) The applicator of claim 1, wherein the means for forcing fluid from the reservoir to the orifice is comprised of a piston within the reservoir.
13. (Currently amended) The applicator of claim 1, wherein the means for forcing fluid from the reservoir to the orifice is comprised of a piston and threaded piston rod within the reservoir.
14. (Currently amended) An applicator for dispensing a liquid ~~or a gel~~ anesthetic into a mouth, the applicator comprising:
 - a generally cylindrical container having a reservoir;
 - a dispensing orifice at one end of the container in fluid communication

with the reservoir,

a plurality of bristles, the bristles having a first end that is within the dispensing orifice and a second end located outside of and away from the dispensing orifice ~~from the orifice~~, the bristles acting as a partial closure for the orifice and acting as an applicator for ~~anesthetic liquid or gel~~ in the reservoir,

a piston within the reservoir, movement of the piston being capable of causing liquid ~~or gel~~ in the reservoir to flow from the dispensing orifice;

a anesthetic liquid within the reservoir;

wherein said liquid anesthetic is dispensed from the dispensing orifice and into the bristles by movement of the piston.

15. (Currently amended) An applicator for dispensing a ~~liquid or a gel~~ into a mouth, the applicator comprising:

a generally cylindrical container having a reservoir;

a dispensing orifice at one end of the container in fluid communication with the reservoir,

a plurality of bristles, the bristles having a first end within the dispensing orifice and a second end located outside of and away from the dispensing orifice, the bristles acting as a partial closure for the orifice and transporting liquid ~~or gel~~ anesthetic to a point of application;

a piston within the reservoir, movement of the piston being capable of causing liquid ~~or gel~~ in the reservoir to flow from the dispensing orifice;

and

an anesthetic gel within the reservoir;

wherein said anesthetic gel is dispensed from the dispensing orifice
and into the bristles by movement of the piston.

16. (New) The applicator of claim 1, wherein said anesthetic composition is comprised of benzocaine.
17. (New) The applicator of claim 16, wherein said anesthetic composition further includes a sweetener.
18. (New) The applicator of claim 17, wherein said sweetener is sucralose.
19. (New) The applicator of claim 17 wherein said sweetener is sugar free.
20. (New) The applicator of claim 1, wherein said anesthetic composition includes a sweetener.
21. (New) The applicator of claim 20, wherein said sweetener is sucralose
22. (New) The applicator of claim 20 wherein said anesthetic composition is sugar free.
23. (New) The applicator of claim 14, wherein said liquid anesthetic is comprised of benzocaine.
24. (New) The applicator of claim 23, wherein said liquid anesthetic further includes a sweetener.
25. (New) The applicator of claim 24, wherein said sweetener is sucralose.
26. (New) The applicator of claim 24, wherein said sweetener is sugar free.
27. (New) The applicator of claim 15, wherein said anesthetic gel is comprised of benzocaine.
28. (New) The applicator of claim 27, wherein said anesthetic gel further

includes a sweetener.

29. (New) The applicator of claim 28, wherein said sweetener is sucralose.
30. (New) The applicator of claim 28, wherein said sweetener is sugar free.